

Category #18:

The Guidelines should require supplier disclosure of cleaning product ingredients.

State Response:

Green Seal requires that all ingredients be disclosed to Green Seal for evaluation. Many cleaning products contain proprietary blends of chemicals that are not disclosed to the public or competitors in order to protect the manufacturer's or distributor's market interests.

Frequently Asked Public Comment:

Disclose All Ingredients

--Full disclosure of all ingredients (Apply to all cleaning products).

(Deirdre Imus, Founder and President, The Deirdre Imus Environmental Center for Pediatric Oncology, Hackensack University Medical Center, The David Joseph Jurist Research Center For Tomorrows Children, Hackensack, NJ 07601)

--The OGS/Green Seal guidelines do not call for disclosure of all ingredients.

(Deirdre Imus, Founder and President, The Deirdre Imus Environmental Center for Pediatric Oncology, Hackensack University Medical Center, The David Joseph Jurist Research Center For Tomorrows Children, Hackensack, NJ 07601)

--CHARACTERISTICS OF GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS

Recommended Change: We recommend the addition of the following paragraph after the list of criteria (1-13). It is recommended that all ingredients for all cleaning products be listed on the MSDS. It is also recommended that non-fragrant cleaning products be used whenever possible, and non-fragrant cleaning products be required to be used in public and nonpublic schools after 2009.

Justification: Among the many benefits for listing all ingredients on the MSDS is the strong argument in support of the school's ability to answer questions about ingredients contained in the cleaning products the school district uses.

SBGA supports the use of non-fragrant cleaning products wherever possible and further recommends that non-fragrant cleaning products be required after 2009. GS-37 does not currently require products to be fragrant free, therefore in many cases the marketplace has not yet moved in this direction. This proactive language gives the marketplace time to test and develop environmentally preferable products that meet these criteria.

(Signed By: David Brooks (Malone CSD), President & Frederick Koelbel (West Islip UFSD), 1st Vice President, Legislative Committee Chairman)(Submitted By: Kathleen Van De Loo, Executive Director, (NYS SBGA) NYS Association for Superintendents of School Buildings and Grounds, Inc., Albany, NY)